CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for balancing attainment of goals, comprising the steps of:

2 (a) presenting a plurality of goals;

3 (b) adjusting preferences related to one of the goals;

4 (c) determining an impact on attaining the goals based on the adjusted

5 preferences; and

6 (d) displaying the impact on attaining the goals.

1 2. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving

2 information about a user; and wherein the goals are based on the received

3 information.

1 3. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the goals include at least one of:

2 home, vehicle, monthly allowance and savings, planned furniture expenses,

3 planned appliance purchases, vacation, children's education, and retirement

4 home.

1 4. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of adjusting preferences

2 includes adjusting a degree of favoritism between time and quality.

1 5. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of adjusting preferences

2 includes adjusting a priority for the selected goal.

1 6. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of adjusting preferences

2 includes adjusting a time expectation for the amount of time expected for

3 achieving the selected goal.

7. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of adjusting preferences includes adjusting a quality expectation for the degree of quality expected for the selected goal.

8. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of displaying the impact on attaining the goals includes displaying a summary of changes in achieving the goals as a result of the adjusted preferences.

9. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of selecting a default profile; and wherein the goals are based on the default profile.

10. A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for balancing attainment of goals, comprising:

    (a) a code segment that presents a plurality of goals;

    (b) a code segment that adjusts preferences related to one of the goals;

    (c) a code segment that determines an impact on attaining the goals based on the adjusted preferences; and

    (d) a code segment that displays the impact on attaining the goals.

11. A computer program as recited in claim 10, further comprising a code segment that receives information about a user; and wherein the goals are based on the received information.

12. A computer program as recited in claim 10, wherein the goals include at least one of: home, vehicle, monthly allowance and savings, planned furniture expenses, planned appliance purchases, vacation, children's education, and retirement home.

13. A computer program as recited in claim 10, wherein the code segment that adjusts preferences adjusts a degree of favoritism between time and quality.

1   14.   A computer program as recited in claim 10, wherein the code segment that
2   adjusts preferences adjusts a priority for the selected goal.

1   15.   A computer program as recited in claim 10, wherein the code segment that
2   adjusts preferences adjusts a time expectation for the amount of time
3   expected for achieving the selected goal.

1   16.   A computer program as recited in claim 10, wherein the code segment that
2   adjusts preferences adjusts a quality expectation for the degree of quality
3   expected for the selected goal.

1   17.   A computer program as recited in claim 10, wherein the code segment that
2   displays the impact on attaining the goals includes displaying a summary of
3   changes in achieving the goals as a result of the adjusted preferences.

1   18.   A computer program as recited in claim 10, further comprising a code
2   segment that selects a default profile; and wherein the goals are based on the
3   default profile.

1   19.   A system for balancing attainment of goals, comprising:
2   (a)   logic that presents a plurality of goals;
3   (b)   logic that adjusts preferences related to one of the goals;
4   (c)   logic that determines an impact on attaining the goals based on the adjusted
5   preferences; and
6   (d)   logic that displays the impact on attaining the goals.

1   20.   A system as recited in claim 19, wherein the goals include at least one of:
2   home, vehicle, monthly allowance and savings, planned furniture expenses,
3   planned appliance purchases, vacation, children's education, and retirement
4   home.